

December 11, 2008

Chantel Markel, Chair
Quality Improvement Committee
Washington County, Utah

Re: QIC Recommendations

Dear Chantel,

The State QIC received your letter in regards to the Cohabitation Act, which does not permit foster parents to cohabitate. We reviewed your letter in our State QIC meeting on October 27, 2008. As a committee we share your concerns that the Cohabitation Act may be hindering viable kinship or foster families from taking care of children.

After reviewing your letter, the State QIC has agreed that this issue is of great importance. Your concerns will be forwarded to the Division of Child and Family Services director, Duane Betournay, and Deputy Director and legislative liaison, Charri Brummer, for their review and to use in possible discussions during this legislative session. As a local QIC please consider contacting your local legislators to explain the problems you have identified in regards to the Cohabitation Act.

As always, we appreciate your diligence in reviewing the child welfare system in Utah and how we can better serve and supports families and children.

Sincerely,

Kerri Burns
Community Development Manager
Division of Child and Family Services

Cc: Duane Betournay
Charri Brummer